

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A refinish basecoat composition comprising at least one pigment and an hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer, wherein the acrylic polymer has a number average molecular weight of at least about 6000 and up to about 30,000, and further wherein the acrylic polymer is polymerized using at least about 45% by weight of a cycloaliphatic monomer, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized.
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2. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1, wherein the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer is at least about 50% by weight, based on nonvolatile binder material.
3. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1, wherein the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer is at least about 60% by weight, based on nonvolatile binder material.
4. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1, wherein the pigment is dispersed in the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer.

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5. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the refinish basecoat is free of materials reactive with the acrylic polymer.
6. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1, further
comprising a polyester.
7. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
comprising at least one flake pigment.
8. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the acrylic polymer has a weight average molecular weight of at least about
17,000.
9. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the cycloaliphatic monomer comprises a member selected from the group
consisting of cyclohexyl acrylate, cyclohexyl methacrylate, isobornyl acrylate, isobornyl
methacrylate, and combinations thereof.
10. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the cycloaliphatic monomer is at least about 60% by weight, based on the total
weight of monomers polymerized.

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11. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the cycloaliphatic monomer is up to about 85% by weight, based on the total
weight of monomers polymerized.

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12. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the acrylic polymer has an hydroxyl number of from about 45 mg KOH/g
polymer to about 75 mg KOH/g polymer.

13. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein the acrylic polymer is polymerized from monomers comprising from about 1%
to about 20% by weight of a combination of styrene, n-butyl methacrylate, and n-butyl
acrylate, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized, and from about 0.25%
and up to about 20% by weight of at least one acrylic or methacrylic ester having amine
functionality, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized.

14. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1,
wherein an about 30% by weight solution of the acrylic polymer in a one-to-one by
weight combination of n-butyl acetate and methyl isobutyl ketone has a viscosity less
than or equal to about 1.5 Stokes at 25°C.

15. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 4,
wherein the pigment comprises a carbon black pigment.

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16. (currently amended) A refinish basecoat composition comprising at least one pigment and an hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer, wherein the acrylic polymer has a number average molecular weight of at least about 8000 and up to about 30,000, and further wherein the acrylic polymer is polymerized using from about 60% to about 80% by weight of a cycloaliphatic monomer, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized.

17. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 16, wherein a an about 30% by weight solution of the acrylic polymer in a one-to-one by weight combination of n-butyl acetate and methyl isobutyl ketone has a viscosity less than or equal to about 0.3 Stokes at 25°C.

18. (currently amended) A refinish basecoat intermix system, comprising

- (a) a plurality of color components each independently comprising at least one pigment dispersed by a polymeric material, and
- (b) a pigment-free component containing an hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer that has a number average molecular weight of at least about 6000 and up to about 30,000, and further wherein the acrylic polymer is polymerized using at least about 45% by weight of a cycloaliphatic monomer, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer,

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wherein the color components are related such that a refinish basecoat composition of any desired color can be produced by combining the intermix system components.

19. (original) A refinish basecoat intermix system according to claim 18, wherein the intermix system comprises at least about 30 color components.

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20. (original) A refinish basecoat intermix system according to claim 18, further comprising a component containing a crosslinker reactive with the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer.

21. (original) A refinish basecoat intermix system according to claim 18, wherein at least one color component comprises a polymeric material comprising the hydroxyl functional acrylic polymer.

22. (original) A refinish basecoat intermix system according to claim 18, comprising a color component comprising a carbon black pigment dispersed by at least the hydroxyl functional acrylic polymer.

23. (original) A refinish basecoat intermix system according to claim 22, wherein the hydroxyl functional acrylic polymer dispersing the carbon black pigment has amine functionality.

24. (currently amended) A method of refinishing a substrate, comprising steps of:

- (a) applying to a desired area of the substrate a layer of a refinish basecoat composition comprising at least one pigment and an hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer, wherein the acrylic polymer has a number average molecular weight of at least about 6000 and up to about 30,000, and further wherein the acrylic polymer is polymerized using at least about 45% by weight of a cycloaliphatic monomer, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized;
- (b) allowing the applied layer of basecoat composition to dry for up to about twenty minutes; and
- (c) applying over the layer of basecoat composition a clearcoat composition.

25. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the clearcoat composition is thermosetting.

26. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the clearcoat composition comprises at least one material reactive with the acrylic polymer of the layer of basecoat composition.

27. (original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the material reactive with the acrylic polymer of the layer of basecoat composition comprises the isocyanurate of hexamethylene diisocyanate.

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28. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the basecoat composition is dry to handle at about five minutes after application.
29. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the substrate is an automotive vehicle or a component of an automotive vehicle.
30. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the refinish basecoat composition comprises a sufficient amount of the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer so that the refinish basecoat composition is dry to handle by up to 20 minutes after application.
31. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the refinish basecoat composition comprises a sufficient amount of the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer so that the refinish basecoat composition is dry to handle by 10 minutes after application.
32. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the refinish basecoat composition comprises a sufficient amount of the hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer so that the refinish basecoat composition is dry to handle by 5 minutes after application.
33. (currently amended) An hydroxyl-functional acrylic polymer, wherein the acrylic polymer has a number average molecular weight of at least about

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6000 and up to about 30,000, and further wherein the acrylic polymer is polymerized using at least about 45% by weight of a cycloaliphatic monomer, based on the total weight of monomers polymerized.

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34. (original) A refinished substrate prepared according to the method of claim 24.

35. (original) A refinish basecoat composition according to claim 1, further including a UV-curable component

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